

CITY OF COLTON

2023 Consumer Confidence Report



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Water System Description

The City of Colton Water Utility was formed in February of 1895 when the water system was purchased from Colton City Water Company at a purchase price of \$40,000. At the time, the total cost of the system was valued at \$66,210.47. The contract purchase price carried with it the water bearing lands of the company, its water mains and a developed and guaranteed water flow.

Today, nearly 130 years later, Colton Water Utility's value and service have grown exponentially. It now provides potable water service to approximately 90% of the City proper for domestic consumption, fire protection and irrigation. Additionally, this service is provided by a system consisting of approximately 239 miles of pipeline, 8 active wells, 3 booster pumping plants, 2 pressure reducing facilities and 6 water storage reservoirs. Water operations are staffed by 21 employees that work together to serve over 10,000 customer connections, annually.

2023 Stats



Million Gallons Average Daily Flow



Water Quality Samples Taken



Customer Service Work Orders Addressed



Fire Hydrants Repaired/Replaced



Services Repaired/Replaced

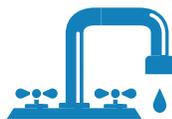
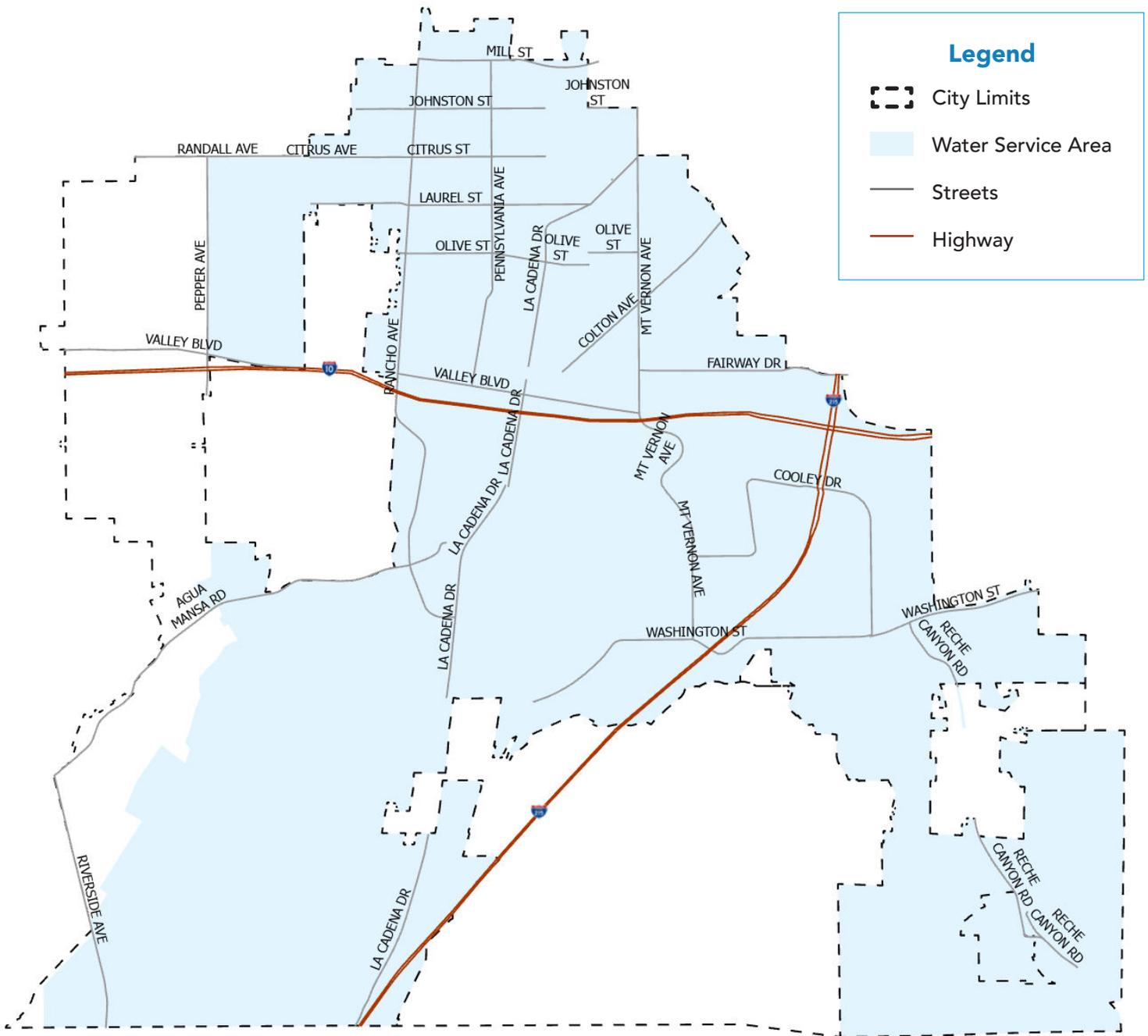


Well Site Repairs



Reservoir Inspections

COLTON WATER SYSTEM



Colton provides water service for domestic consumption, fire protection, and irrigation customers within its service area.

Estimado cliente –Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Por favor encuentre alguien que se lo pueda traducir. “Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Colton Water Dept. a (909-370-6163) para asistirlo en español. ”

Introduction

The City of Colton Water Department is pleased to present the latest Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the quality of water and services that, through our efforts, are delivered to you every day. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our constant and main goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want to help you understand the measures we continuously take to improve the water treatment process and protect the water system resources. These resources consist of nine (9) wells, which draw water from three (3) underlying groundwater basins (Colton/Rialto Basin, Bunker Hill Basin and North Riverside Basin). Another source, is provided by Veolia Water District. And if needed, the City of San Bernardino’s water supply, which is treated groundwater from the Bunker Hill Basin.

Assessment Information

In September 2002, an assessment was completed of the drinking water from all sources to the City. The report is a vulnerability assessment of potential sources of contaminants for each water source. If you would like to request a summary of the assessments, please contact John Ahearn, City of Colton Senior Water Quality Technician, at (909-370-6164).

Routine Water Testing / Ensuring Tap Water Safety

City of Colton Water Department staff routinely monitors the drinking water for contaminants. These tests are conducted according to Federal and State laws/regulations. On the following page, you will find a Monitoring Table showing the results for the period covering January 1 to December 31, 2023. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water that is provided by public water systems. The same protection is provided by FDA regulations that establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

Common Contaminants

Sources of drinking water (both tap & bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture or residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Obtaining Contaminant Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Possible Vulnerability

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk of infection. If any of these apply to you, please seek advice from your health care provider regarding the drinking of water. US EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection from Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Effects of PFOA & PFOS

Perfluorooctanic Acid (PFOA) exposures resulted in increased liver weight and cancer in laboratory animals. Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) exposure resulted in immune suppression and cancer in laboratory animals.

Effects of Nitrate

Nitrate in drinking water at levels of 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may quickly rise for short periods because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should seek the advice of your health care provider. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

Effects of Perchlorate

The SWRCB set the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Perchlorate at 6 ppb. As a result, the City of Colton has completed installation of two (2) treatment systems for three (3) wells that were impacted by this new level. These systems remove perchlorate to below detection levels, ensuring that the water served never exceeds the State MCL. Drinking water containing Perchlorate in excess of the MCL may cause effects associated with hypothyroidism. Perchlorate interferes with the production of thyroid hormones, which are required for normal pre-/postnatal development in humans, as well as normal body metabolism.

Effects of Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Colton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available to the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [ppt://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

The City tested the Colton Unified School District's schools in 2018. The District took remedial action at any schools with lead detection resulting in non-detection for those facilities.

Lead and Copper

The Lead & Copper Rule became effective in 1993. The City of Colton has performed nine rounds of sampling. The last was performed in August 2022. The next round is scheduled for 2025. All samples are taken from the first draw of morning water. The 1st two rounds were from 60 single-family residences with copper pipe with lead solder installed since 1982. The 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 & 2022 sampling included only 30 single-family residences due to favorable results in the previous rounds. The next round is scheduled for August 2025. The 2023 results can be found on page 8 of this report.

Contacts Regarding Questions or Concerns

If you have any questions concerning your water quality or about this report, please contact John Ahearn, Senior Water Quality Technician for the City of Colton (909-370-6164). For more information, please visit the City's website at <http://www.ci.colton.ca.us>, **City Departments, Public Utilities**. The City Council Meeting Agendas/Minutes are also accessible on the website and contain detailed reports of some of the information offered here. You can also attend Utilities Commission Meetings held every second Monday of the month (except October and November, when they are held on the third Monday) at City Hall.

YOUR WATER IS SAFE!

The City of Colton is proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Though we have learned through monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected, the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. Please refer to the following page, which shows that the City's water system did not have any violations.

Definitions

Public Health Goal

The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risks. PHG's are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCL's are set as close to PHG's (or MCLG's) as is technologically and economically feasible. Secondary MCL's are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Primary Drinking Water Standards

MCL's for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Water Quality Terms

Clarity

Cloudiness or turbidity in water is caused by tiny particles such as clay, silt or other suspended mater. Clarity is regulated because minute particles can shield bacteria from the disinfection process.

Radionuclides

Radioactivity in water originates from both natural sources and human activities. In most low risk areas, potential exposure to radiation in water is a fraction of the background exposure from all other natural sources.

Primary Standards

Were established to protect the consumer from health hazards associated with bacteria and chemicals.

Secondary Standards

The measure of aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and color, which do not affect health.

Key to Abbreviations and Footnotes

N/A - Not Applicable

NC - Non-Corrosive

ND - Monitored but not detected

NS - No Standard has been set.

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units, a measure of suspended material in water

pCi/L - PicoCuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity.

mg/L - Milligrams per liter, or parts per million

ug/L - Micrograms per liter, or parts per billion

ng/L - Nanograms per liter –parts per trillion.

TON - Threshold Odor Number

TT - Treatment Technique (See Definitions)

Umhos Micromhos - A measure of total mineral content < Less than

Units – Unit of measurement

* The State allows for less than annual monitoring for certain constituents because the concentrations do not change frequently. Therefore, the data, though representative, is more than a year old.

** A positive Langlier Index indicates that the water is non – corrosive.

*** An aggressiveness index greater than 10 indicates that the water is not aggressive (corrosive).

**** For systems collecting 40 or more samples, if more than 5.0 percent of samples collected are total coliform positive, then the MCL is violated. NL Notification Level – Level at which the water purveyor must notify their governing body of detection. AL Action Level – Level at which DDW recommends a source be taken out of service.

Know Your Water

The City of Colton is committed to providing detailed information about your drinking water quality. The annual report includes helpful information about where your drinking water comes from and how we make it safe for use, the constituents found in your drinking water, and how the water quality compares with regulatory standards. We are pleased to report that in 2023, water quality across our service area met or exceeded all federal and state drinking water standards. We remain dedicated to providing a reliable supply of high-quality drinking water at a reasonable cost.

For more information or questions regarding this report, you can contact John Ahearn, Senior Water Quality Technician at **909-370-6164** or by email at jahearn@coltonca.gov, or Bassam Alzamar, Water/Wastewater Operations Manager at **909-370-6101** or by email at balzamar@coltonca.gov.

CITY OF COLTON - WATER DEPARTMENT

MONITORING TABLE FOR JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

Contaminant	Violation Y / N	Test Results			UNIT MEASURE	STATE MCL MRDL	STATE PHG MRDLG	YEAR TESTED* Colton/ Rialto	Other Water Source - City of Rialto TEST RESULTS			LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
		Minimum	Maximum	Average					Minimum	Maximum	Average	
INORGANIC CHEMICALS - PRIMARY STANDARDS												
Fluoride	N	0.24	0.6	0.35	mg/L	2	1	2022	0.2	0.26	0.23	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive for dental hygiene, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as N)	N	0	6.9	3.1	mg/L	10	10	2023	1.4	6.0	3.03	Runoff / leaching from fertilizer use, septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate+Nitrite as Nitrogen	N	0	4.3	0.54	mg/L	10	10	2023	Not Tested			Runoff / leaching from fertilizer use, septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits
CHEMICAL PARAMETERS - SECONDARY STANDARDS												
Chloride	N	4.4	64	19	mg/L	500	NS	2023	3.7	10	6.73	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Corrosivity (Langlier Index)**	N	0	0.19	0.02	units	NC	NS	2023	Not Tested			Natural or industrial-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon & oxygen in water, affected by temperature and other factors.
Aggressiveness Index ***	N	0	12	1.5	units	NS	NS	2023	Not Tested			
Iron	N	0	0	0	ug/L	300	NS	2023	Not Tested			Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	N	0	44	5.5	ug/L	50	NS	2023/ 2020	ND	70	9.5	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	N	380	760	522	umhos	1600	NS	2023	300	500	382	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	N	21	83	47.4	mg/L	500	NS	2023	17	51	25	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	N	240	1000	387.5	mg/L	1000	NS	2023	160	370	223	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits

MONITORING TABLE FOR JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

Contaminant	Violation	Test Results			UNIT MEASURE	STATE MCL MRDL	STATE PHG MRDLG	YEAR TESTED* Colton/Rialto	Other Water Source - City of Rialto TEST RESULTS			LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
	Y / N	Minimum	Maximum	Average					Minimum	Maximum	Average	
PHYSICAL PARAMETERS												
Odor - Threshold	N	1	1	1	TON	3	NS	2023	ND	ND	ND	Naturally occurring organic materials
pH	N	7.4	7.7	7.63	units	NS	NS	2023	7.9	8.1	8	
Turbidity	N	0	0.69	0.2	NTU	5	N/A	2023	ND	0.5	0.07	
RADIONUCLIDES												
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	N	0	7.2	3.6	pCi/L	15	NS	2018/2023	1.68	4.06	2.78	Erosion of natural deposits
Radon 222	N	229	458	333.3	pCi/L	NS	NS	2000				Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	N	0	4.8	2.4	pCi/L	20	0.43	2019/2017	1.45	4.56	2.46	Erosion of natural deposits
VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICALS (VOC's)												
Tetrachloroethylene	N	ND	ND	ND	ug/L	5	0.06	2019/2017	Not Tested			Leaching from PVC pipes, discharge from factories, dry cleaners and auto shops (metal degreaser)
1,2,3 Trichloropropane	N	ND	ND	ND	ug/L	0.005	0.0007	2018/2023	ND	ND	ND	
cis-1,2,Dichloroethylene	N	0	0.6	0.2	ug/L	6	13	2023/NA	Not Tested			
ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS												
Alkalinity	N	150	230	190	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	150	220	182	
Bicarbonate Alkalinity	N	190	280	231	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	150	220	182	
Calcium	N	31	96	61	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	41	70	54	
Total Hardness	N	120	290	192	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	130	220	163	
Magnesium	N	7	13	9.6	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	4.8	12	7.1	
Potassium	N	1.8	3.7	2.7	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	1.7	3.2	2.1	
Sodium	N	13	130	42.5	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	10	25	14	
Boron	N	0	200	59	mg/L	NS	NS	2023	Not Tested			
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM												
Microbiological-Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND	ND	ND	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples****			2023	0	6	1	Naturally present in the environment
Total Trihalomethanes	N	0	7.6	1.3	ug/L	80	NS	2023	ND	17	5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	N	0	0	0	ug/L	60	NS	2023	ND	ND	ND	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	0.8	1.2	0.98	mg/L	4	4	2023	0.7	1.1	0.99	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
REGULATED CONTAMINANTS (Perchlorate)												
Perchlorate	N	0	5.1	2.5	ug/L	6	1	2023	ND	ND	ND	Component of explosives, fireworks, matches, and solid rocket fuels.

MONITORING TABLE FOR JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

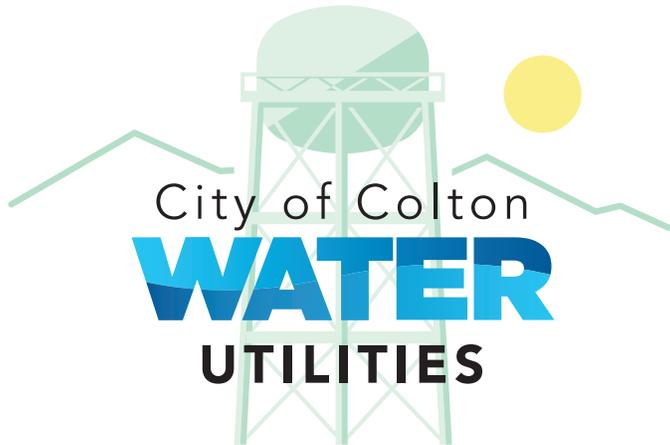
Contaminant	Violation	Test Results			UNIT MEASURE	STATE MCL MRDL	STATE PHG MRDLG	YEAR TESTED* Colton/Rialto	Other Water Source - City of Rialto TEST RESULTS			LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
	Y / N	Minimum	Maximum	Average					Minimum	Maximum	Average	
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS												
Perfluorooctane-sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	N	0	17.5	4.4	ng/L	NL-6.5	RL-40	2023	ND	ND	ND	Used to make a variety of products that resist heat, oil, grease and water.
Perfluorooctanic Acid (PFOA)	N	0	5.83	1.37	ng/L	NL-5.1	RL-10	2023	ND	6.1	2.85	Used to make a variety of products that resist heat, oil, grease and water.

Contaminant	90th Percentile Result	UNIT MEASURE	Action Level	PHG	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Lead	0	ug/L	15	2	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems, discharge from industrial mfg, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	130	ug/L	1300	300	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.



Like our customers, Colton Water Utility staff have a vested interest in treating and delivering safe and reliable water. We are proud to serve the people of Colton and are hopeful that our work day in and day out solidifies our mission statement of People First, Water Always.

WATER DEPARTMENT REBRAND



People First, Water Always

A new brand to represent our community and our commitment to service and reliability.

Our brand personality is that of an organization that is passionate, hardworking and proud of what we do. We are empathetic and responsive to customer concerns, and we are community owned and oriented. Most of all, we want to create a friendly tone that is approachable and creates a bridge between the City of Colton Water/Wastewater and our customer.

This philosophy is embodied in our new tagline: ***People First, Water Always.***



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What our icon stands for.

The City of Colton stands uniquely apart in the region with our approach to water storage through our distinctive elevated water reservoir.

Unlike common water storage reservoirs in the area, our elevated reservoir not only ensures efficient water distribution but also offers a picturesque silhouette against the backdrop of the majestic San Bernardino Mountains.

The water tower and its relationship to the Colton community was our inspiration for the final logo.

The City of Colton water and wastewater departments were established in 1895.

The mission of the Public Works & Utilities Department, Water and Wastewater Divisions is to provide its customers with a reliable supply of potable water and sewer services at an equitable price, essential to maintaining public health, economic vitality and community well being.

LA LOMA RESERVOIR

We are excited to announce that construction of the La Loma Reservoir No. 2 is tentatively scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2024. This significant infrastructure project will add a substantial 3.0 million gallons of potable water to the City's water system, significantly bolstering our community's water resiliency and sustainability for the future.



Artist's rendering of the intended location of the La Loma Reservoir No. 2 next to Reservoir No. 1.

The La Loma Reservoir No. 2 is more than just a water storage facility; it represents our commitment to ensuring that every resident has access to a reliable and safe water supply. This much-needed addition will help us to build on water storage requirements, ensuring that we can provide adequate fire flow protection and maintain our high standards of delivering safe, clean, and affordable drinking water.

We are dedicated to building a sustainable future for our city, and this new reservoir is a critical step in that direction. Its construction will not only enhance our water infrastructure but also provide peace of mind to our community, knowing that their water needs are being met with the highest quality standards.

We invite you to stay engaged with us as this project progresses. Keep an eye out for future updates, as we will be sharing more information on the development and milestones of the La Loma Reservoir No. 2. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient water system for our city.

PIPE FLUSHING PROGRAM

For the past decade, comments have been raised regarding sediment in our water system, resulting in instances of "brown water". While these instances of discoloration are an aesthetic issue, and Colton's water quality consistently meets or exceeds all state and federal standards, Colton Water Utility is proud to announce its year-long water quality initiative that will flush out built-up sediment from water mainlines throughout ALL parts of the Colton water service area.

The Answer to Your Water Distribution System Flushing and Conservation Needs

To complete this initiative, Colton Water Utility has partnered with NO-DES, Inc. and their innovative zero-discharge flushing system. This advanced system operates at high velocity to efficiently flush mainlines up to 12 inches, while using two filter trucks equipped with 24 filter bags, to capture and remove sediment from our lines.

Traditional flushing methods release water from fire hydrants at high speed to remove sediment, with the flushed water eventually making its way to storm drains. NO-DES, Inc.'s process is fully contained, with flushed water circulated back into the water distribution system, with virtually zero water loss.

We are committed to delivering the highest quality water to our customers, and our collaboration with NO-DES, Inc. represents a significant step forward in ensuring you receive the best possible water service. Thank you for your continued trust in the City of Colton.



- No-Des Zero Discharge Flushing
- High Velocity Flushing
- Improved Water Quality
- Improving Customer Confidence
- Improving Infrastructure
- Water Conservation

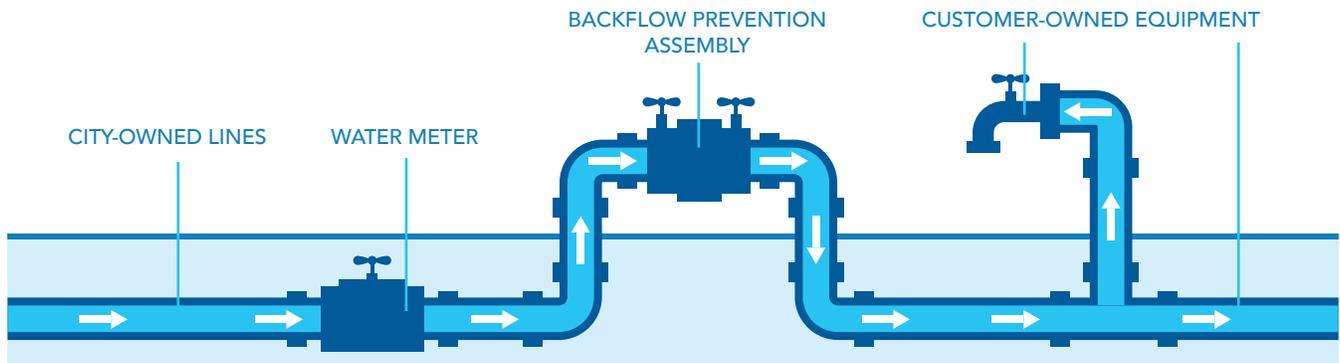
BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM



Protecting the water supply from actual and potential contamination is a top priority for the City of Colton. Where contamination is possible the City's Public Works Department requires that an appropriate and approved backflow prevention assembly is installed. These assemblies are tested and inspected on an annual basis by certified backflow testers in accordance with state and local regulations. If a backflow preventer does not meet current testing requirements the backflow must be repaired or replaced within a timely manner required by the City Public Works Department. If a backflow preventer is not tested or repaired within a time specified by the Public Works Department, in the interest of protecting the public water system, the users water service would be suspended until the backflow preventer is protecting the public water system from possible contamination.

Backflow is the undesirable reversal of water from its normal direction of flow. When water passes through the water meter it should not flow back into the public water system. If water from a consumer were to flow back into the public water system, it could bring contaminants that would adversely affect the public water system. Backflow prevention assemblies are one-way valves that prevent the unintentional reversal of flow from the consumer's piping system.

Backflow is caused by a back-siphonage or a backpressure condition in the public water system. back-siphonage occurs when the pressure in the public water system drops below atmospheric pressure and creates a vacuum that may pull unsafe substances into the public water supply. Back-siphonage can occur during large uses of water such as a line break, vehicle accident with a hydrant, and construction use. Backpressure occurs when the pressure from a private water system becomes greater than the pressure in the public water system. Backpressure often occurs when pumping systems are installed incorrectly. This difference in pressure may allow unsafe substances from the private water system to enter the public water system. Approved backflow prevention assemblies are designed to prevent backflow of contaminants or pollutants from entering the public water systems.



City of Colton
Water Utility
650 N. La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

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City Council

Frank J. Navarro, Mayor

David J. Toro, Council Member District 1

Kelly J. Chastain, Council Member District 2

Dr. Luis S. González, Council Member District 3

John R. Echevarria, Council Member District 4

City Manager

William R. Smith

Water Utility Director

Brian A. Dickinson



Who to Call

Billing Questions

Customer Service:
(909) 370-5555

650 N. La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Water Inquiries & Quality

Water Utility Administration:
(909) 370-6131

160 S. 10th Street
Colton, CA 92324

After Hours

(909) 370-5000

Español/Spanish
Versión en Español

